

Kendrick School - Weekly Update

Friday 19th July 2024

LETTER FROM MS KATTIRTZI, HEADTEACHER

School has finished for another academic year. At our whole school assembly yesterday afternoon we heard reports from our Kendrick Student Leaders about activities and events that have taken place over the last few months. We listened to some music and poetry and said thanks and goodbye to leaving staff. I believe it is important for everyone in our community to feel and hear that their role in our school is important and valued and so our assembly was a combination of celebration and joy, as well some sadness about things that will change and staff and students who will not be here next year. We acknowledged the many activities that have taken place in school even in this last week of term: Talent Show, Sixth Form Show, Sports Day. Throughout the assembly students sat attentively and diligently appreciating and respecting the reports and messages they heard. Thank you to everyone for creating a school where this kind of gathering is still possible and appreciated.

A number of staff are leaving Kendrick this year and they are: Mrs Mohamed, Biology Technician; Mr Calcutt-John, MFL Teacher; Miss Murphy, Geography Teacher; Mr Bannerman-Marlow, Caretaker; Mrs Keigher, Art/Technology Technician; Frau Maendler, MFL/Classic Teacher; Mrs Cundy, Literacy Assistant; Miss Akcay, English Teacher; Mrs Mayers, Maths Teacher; Mrs Cavaciuti, Librarian; Ms Fieldsend, English Teacher; Mrs Cook, Food Teacher; Mrs Sammons, Business/Economics/Geography Teacher; Mr Hill, Assistant Headteacher and Physics Teacher. We wish them well and thank them for their service and contribution to Kendrick during the time they have worked with us. At the assembly yesterday, Kendrick Student Leaders spoke about each of these staff and gave an appropriate tribute to them in terms of their time and impact on Kendrick.

On the website this week there are the following articles, please take time to read them.

- [9C win a book Award](#)
- [The Poets' Society Launches its Fourth Anthology](#)
- [Readathon finishes another classic novel](#)
- [Next addition of the Asteria magazine](#)

To finish, I would like to go back to the assembly we had yesterday when in my closing remarks, I asked students to reflect on the year they have had and consider how it has been and to think about next year and what will be different and or better. These reflections are important and should be encouraged and discussed. I would also urge parents to consider and reflect on the year and how they feel it has been for their child. All parents and students received reports this year and these should be causes of celebration, but there is also room for reflection and consideration about what could be better in the future. We all agree that academic ability and brilliance are not all that matters in life and it is certainly not what Kendrick is all about. The kind of person someone is and wishes to be is equally important. We at school want our students to be happy and confident individuals, optimistic about their future, equipped and able to take their place in society and know their purpose and worth. This is what we work towards for all our students at Kendrick.

We ended yesterday's assembly with a poem that was the Foreword to this year's Poetry Anthology, entitled Cycles. This is such an appropriate theme on which to finish our year, as well as look forward to the next. Our school year is very much a cycle of time with a beginning and an end, when we can reflect and refresh and start again. We are at such a point now and Usmi's poem, which she read in assembly so beautifully, sums that up and as such is a fitting end to this week and this year's Weekly Update.

And so the cycle starts,
as the moon, caressed by cerulean ripples
retreats to nestle back by its hearth between the stars,
as first love's blush turns to wilted petals on hardwood floor,
as the baneful tremor of falling into grief's embrace,
ends in an ivory carpet walk that stretches out to meet a glorious sunrise,
as words splatter on paper in patterns of unequivocal artistry,
that draws crystals from irises and melodies from hearts,
all until it fades into that grey chasm of bleak solidarity, forgotten miracles,
when endings invite the strange twinge of familiarity to one's lips,
it is when the cycle starts,
again.

My sincere thanks to everyone: students, staff, parents, KPS, Trustees for your encouragement and support of Kendrick School this year.

Wishing everyone a safe and happy summer holiday.

Ms Christine Kattirtzi
Headteacher

KENDRICK SCHOOL'S SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS

Kendrick School has several social media platforms and sites. Please follow us to get the latest news and information about the school. The links are in the logos below.



SAFEGUARDING

WORRIED ABOUT A CHILD?

If you have a concern about a child at Kendrick School, please email studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk or telephone 0118 9015859 and ask to speak to a Designated Safeguarding Officer.

If you're worried about any child or young person and you are contacting us out of hours (before 8am and after 4pm and at weekends and holidays), you can contact the NSPCC helpline for support and advice for free - call us on **0808 800 5000** or **contact NSPCC online**. Children can contact **Childline** any time to get support themselves. **In an emergency please call 999 or for a non-emergency call 101.**

We have created a library of resources for parents, carers and students including support avenues which you can find on our website via this [link](#). We will be adding to these on a regular basis.

[CAMHS Resources](#) - This site was created for young people, carers and professionals to pool together lots of helpful resources from across the internet that are available to help support your mental health and well-being.

For wellbeing support in school, students can visit the Student Welfare Team in the General Office or Sixth Form Office or email studentwelfare@kendrick.reading.sch.uk.

AVENUES OF SUPPORT OVER THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS

The infographic is a purple grid with three columns. The first column is for 'Under 25s' and lists 'YOUNGMINDS Crisis Messenger' (Text YM to 85258, Open 24/7), 'THE MIX' (Call 0808 808 4994, 3pm - 12am, every day), and 'childline' (Call 0800 1111, 7:30am - 3:30am, every day). The second column is for 'Over 25s' and lists 'mind' (Call 0300 123 3393, 9am - 6pm, Mon - Fri) and 'SAMARITANS' (Call 116 123, Open 24/7). The third column is for 'Parents' and lists 'YOUNGMINDS Parents Helpline' (Call 0808 802 5544, 9:30am - 4pm, Mon - Fri). A yellow speech bubble at the bottom right says 'For more advice and information visit: youngminds.org.uk/find-help'.

We hope you have a relaxing and enjoyable summer and remember, no-one should ever feel alone, and help is available by connecting with others.

[Shout](#) – here for you 24/7 with [resources and tips](#) to support you when you are feeling anxious, low, stressed or overwhelmed.

[The Mix](#) – understanding Mental Health can be tricky but The Mix is there to make sure you don't have to do it alone. [The Mix Counselling service](#) offers short-term help with mental health and emotional wellbeing for anyone aged 25 and under.

[Young Minds](#) – can help you find the right support for you. From looking after your mental health to understanding medication, they are lots of [useful links](#) to all kinds of advice and guidance.

[Mind](#) – Mind understand mental health and wellbeing. They are there for you if you are finding things hard. They help everyone understand mental health problems, so no-one has to feel alone.

The **Tellmi app** - allows you to talk anonymously about difficult things with other people of a similar age or experience. Tellmi is anonymous so you can talk about virtually anything, and because every post and reply is checked by a human before it goes live, it is completely safe and you are guaranteed to only get supportive replies. When you register, remember to add your school portal. This will tell you about other things in school to support you. "I actually didn't realise how much better this app can make someone feel. I love being able to ask my own questions and just the experience of trying to help even one other person helps me to feel happier too".

Tellmi is completely confidential. Download. Offload. Feel Better.

Tellmi can be downloaded for free from [Google Play](#) and [Apple App Store](#). For more information visit www.tellmi.help

READING FESTIVAL

Please click [here](#) for some safety and wellbeing information ahead of this year's **Reading Festival**. If your child/young person is attending the festival this year, we recommend going through this presentation with them.

STAYING SAFE ONLINE

TOP 10 TIPS FOR HELPING CHILDREN STAY SAFE ONLINE THIS SUMMER



Some children might have launched into the summer holidays by getting outdoors to make the most of the occasional sunny intervals. Many youngsters, however, are just as likely to have spent much of their school-free time so far swiping on Snapchat, transfixed by TikTok or preoccupied with their PlayStation.

Most parents and carers notice a sharp increase in their child's amount screen time in the holidays. That's to be expected to an extent – but, naturally, if young people are spending more time online, it's essential to know they're equipped to avoid the dangers of the digital world. This #WakeUpWednesday guide has some simple tips for helping them stay safe over the summer.

[TOP TEN TIPS FOR KEEPING YOUR CHILD SAFE ONLINE THIS SUMMER](#)

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

SUMMER HOLIDAY WELLBEING

SUMMER HOLIDAY SELF CARE

Self-care is about the things we can do to look after our own mental health. Anna Freud has drawn up a list of strategies young people use to help you manage your wellbeing (you can see the process in this [self-care infographic](#)). It's up to you to decide what helps. If it works, keep doing it. If it doesn't, stop and try something else. These activities are *not* a substitute for seeing a mental health professional. Sometimes we need outside help and advice. Getting help is good. No-one should feel bad about it. That's what Anna Freud is about. The self-care section was developed by [Common Room](#) and young people from mental health support group Hearts & Minds. These strategies were identified by young people aged 11-25 though some strategies might not be appropriate for all ages without support or guidance of a trusted adult.

Click [here](#) for the Self Care strategies and [here](#) for the Creating a Self Care Plan booklet.

FEELING WORRIED ABOUT THE SUMMER HOLIDAYS?

The summer holidays are different for everyone. You might be excited about a holiday or having time off, or you could be thinking about what might happen or how you'll cope.

You might be worried about:

- [feeling lonely](#) or not going out
- not seeing people who normally support you
- problems at home or having to [care for your family](#)
- coping without a routine
- [waiting for exam results](#) or starting a new school
- being [hurt or abused](#).

Childline is available all through the holidays to support you, whether that's having someone to talk to, giving you ideas of things to do or helping you to get support when you need it.

Click [here](#) for more information from Childline on coping with the summer holidays and getting support if you need it.

WELLBEING TIPS FROM THE WELLBEING AMBASSADORS

Thank you to all the Wellbeing Ambassadors who have all worked very hard this year in supporting and promoting good mental health and wellbeing in our school. We look forward to them becoming Wellbeing Mentors next year and welcoming our new Wellbeing Ambassadors in September.

Their final task was to produce a Wellbeing for the Summer Holiday booklet which you can find [here](#). You can also have a look at the booklet they produced last year on Dealing with Change [here](#).

KENDRICK SCHOOL WELLBEING NEWSLETTER

For all our **Wellbeing Newsletters** please click [here](#).

SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR TERM 1, 2024-25

Thursday 15th August	A Level Results Day
Thursday 22nd August	GCSE Results Day and Remote Sixth Form Registration
Monday 2nd September	INSET Day
Tuesday 3rd September	INSET Day
Wednesday 4th September	Term 1 2024-25 starts, 8,25am
Saturday 7th September	KPS Pre-Loved Uniform Shop, 9am to 11am
Thursday 12th September	Year 12 Welcome Evening, 5pm to 7.30pm
Tuesday 17th September	Year 7 Welcome Evening, 6pm
Friday 20th September	Admission test day, school closed to all students
Thursday 26th September	Year 10 Welcome Evening, 6pm
Friday 27th September	School Birthday for former students
Tuesday 1st October	Year 8 Welcome Evening, 6pm
Wednesday 2nd October	Year 13 Slapton residential (to Sunday 6 th)
Thursday 3rd October	Trustees L&T Committee, 4.30pm
Thursday 10th October	World Mental Health Day
	Trustees Resources Committee, 4.30pm
Wednesday 16th October	Upper School Chamber Concert
Thursday 24th October	Sixth Form French/History trip to Paris
Friday 25th October	End of Term 1, 3.15pm

The school calendar for the academic year can be found [here](#). For the Term Dates for 2024-25 please click [here](#)

VACANCIES

We currently have vacancies for the following roles:

SUPPORT STAFF ROLES. More information can be found [here](#).

School Caretaker – 37 hours week, 10am – 6pm for August 2024. Closing date for applications – 9am Monday 1st July
Biology and Chemistry Technician, 22.5 hours (tbc), term time only. Closing date for applications – 9am Monday 16th September

TEACHING ROLES. More information can be found [here](#).

English Teacher to cover a maternity leave. November 2024. 0.8 up to full time. Closing date for applications 9am Monday 23rd September 2024.

Kendrick School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any successful applicant will be required to undertake an Enhanced Disclosure check by the Disclosure & Barring Service. Kendrick School is an Equal Opportunity employer.

SEND INFORMATION

SEND LOCAL OFFER SUMMER NEWSLETTER

The summer edition of the new look [SEND Local Offer newsletter](#) is here, packed full of information, blogs and opportunities for children and young people. This edition includes updates from the early years sector; upcoming events and workshops; details of summer Short Breaks; blogs from Jackie Perrin, Autism Advisor and Joyshree Saikia, Community Engagement and Research Officer at BFFC; and much more.

NEWS, NOTICES, COMPETITIONS AND EVENTS

WOKINGHAM LIBRARY TEEN CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOPS

The creative writing workshops are full of fun writing activities and are a great chance for aspiring young writers to come together and share imaginative ideas, develop their writing skills and build friendships with others. Both experienced writers and beginners are welcome. A brief summary of each workshop is listed below:

Legends Unleashed, Saturday 27th July, 10:30am to 3:00pm, Wokingham Library

Myths and legends are some of the earliest forms of storytelling, full of incredible quests and larger than life characters that captivate readers. Join us to create mythical heroes, write your own adventure stories and explore how they fit into the modern world through urban legends and superheroes! **Book your place [here](#).**

Utopian Worlds, Saturday 3rd August, 10:30am to 3:00pm, Wokingham Library

Utopias are all about escapism, exploring the problems we face in the real world and creating a fictional paradise to try and solve them. Join us to craft your own utopian world, write a story set within it and consider the balances and compromises that come with chasing perfection! **Book your place [here](#).**

The workshops are available for all pupils in Year 6-13 and **each workshop costs just £5 to attend** (to be paid in cash on the day). Attendees will also need to **bring a packed lunch**, as there will be a lunch break for both workshops.

We also have an additional creative writing session during the summer holidays at Bracknell Library on Saturday 17th August from 10:30am to 12:00pm, which is completely free and can be registered for by calling 01344 423149.

Before the summer holidays start, Igniting Writing is still holding regular free creative writing sessions at Wokingham Library every Saturday. They are held from 9:45am to 11:15am for Year 6-8 pupils and from 11:45am to 1:15pm for Year 9-13 pupils. Places are limited for these regular sessions, so attendance must be booked in advance. To register, please visit Wokingham Library's booking page (<https://wokingham.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/MSGTRN/WPAC/EVENTS?HOMEPRMS=EVSESPARAMS>) and under the 'Audience' dropdown select 'Secondary School' (though it is available for Year Six pupils too!), which will show our upcoming sessions.

PARENTPAY REMINDERS

We would like to bring to your attention the following ParentPay items, please login to your ParentPay accounts for details.

School Fund Donation
Whitley Community Food Cupboard – cash donations
Year 10, Year 11, Year 12 and Year 13 English set texts
Year 7, 8 and 9 Food and Technology voluntary contributions

Year 10 and Year 11 Art and Textiles voluntary contributions
Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 English set texts
The Poets; Society Anthology – launch on 29th April 2024
Year 7 The Wheelie Fun Business Challenge – 23rd May 2024
Year 12 German set text: Der Besuch Dear Alten Dame – May 2024

Trips

Year 10 French and German trips - June 2024
Year 12 Biology field trip 11th and 12th June 2024
Year 12 Career interest destination trip and CV feedback June 2024+
Year 12 World of Work Insights Programme June 2024
Year 7 Swaminarayan Hindu Temple trip 11th July 2024
Geography A level residential course at Slapton Ley October 2024
Year 12/13 French and History trip October 2024
The marriage of Figaro by Garsington Opera 10th July 2024
A production of The Duchess at the Trafalgar Theatre Thursday 10th October 2024

KENDRICK PARENTS' SOCIETY (KPS)

VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES AT KPS

Are you looking to get more involved in our school community? Please see below on how to get involved. Your involvement is greatly appreciated!



Refreshment Helpers

Does your child participate in music or drama performances at the school? We need volunteer refreshments during these events. This is a great way to be part of the school activities and support our students.

Please note, your help is needed only when your child is performing. To join our team of Refreshment Helpers, please join the WhatsApp group using this link: [Refreshment Helpers Group](#)

Pre-loved Uniform Shop Volunteers

Are you available on Saturday mornings? We're looking for volunteers to help run our pre-loved uniform shop. This initiative not only helps raise funds for the school but also supports environmental sustainability by reusing uniforms. It's a fantastic way to provide great value to parents while ensuring students have access to quality uniforms at reduced prices

Join our team by clicking on this WhatsApp group link: [Uniform Shop Volunteers Group](#)

JOIN KPS

Since KPS operates as a registered charity, we invite you to become a part of our community by joining us. Connecting with your child's school through KPS is a simple process.

Please take a moment to complete our [online membership form](#) making your involvement seamless and effortless. Your participation is highly valued, and we look forward to welcoming you to the KPS family.

KPS FACEBOOK CLOSED GROUP

KPS runs a closed Facebook group where we provide details of upcoming events and other important information. To join this group, search for the "**Kendrick Parents' Society**" group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1514675551882470/>) and ask to join – **once we have confirmed that you are a member of the KPS, we will approve your request.**

KPS Team